

1982 CONGRESS OF GROTTOS ISSUES

I. FUND RAISING

Submitted by The Richmond Area Speleological Society (RASS)

- A. The NSS Board of Governors should study the feasibility of the use of direct mail solicitation, of target audiences sympathetic to conservation, to appeal for contributions for:
- (a) specific cave conservation projects. Yes 114 No 43
 - (b) public cave conservation education. Yes 95 No 60
 - (c) general speleological (scientific) funding. Yes 102 No 42
 - (d) support for the NSS in general. Yes 85 No 64
- B. The NSS Board of Governors should develop a cave conservation advertisement that could be used in fund raising publications and magazines oriented towards conservation, science and nature.
Yes 95 No 63
- C. The NSS Board of Governors should study the feasibility and cost effectiveness of fund raising through advertising in appropriate related publications.
Yes 116 No 39
- D. The NSS Board of Governors should study the feasibility and cost effectiveness of conducting Bingo Games to raise funds for, cave conservation and other NSS activities.
Yes 50 No 103
- E. The NSS Board of Governors should study the feasibility and cost effectiveness of direct telephone solicitation for NSS Fund Raising.
Yes 9 No 145
- F. The NSS Board of Governors should develop a long-term publications plan to help in the financial planning of the NSS and to help avoid severe cash flow problems caused by rapid changes in the amount of money tied up in publication inventories.
Yes 136 No 10

II. NSS OFFICE
Submitted by RASS

The Congress of Grottoes hereby reaffirms its support of the NSS office expansion and encourages all NSS Internal Organizations to contribute to this NSS Building Fund.
Yes 136 No 30

OUT DURING 1988

III. MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING
Submitted by RASS

The NSS should more actively encourage membership in the NSS among non-NSS cavers, even if this promotion causes some non-cavers to see or hear the promotional material and become involved in some aspect of caving, speleology or cave conservation. The gains from additional support of more people helping in speleology or cave conservation will more than offset the few additional people who might go into caves as a result of this increased recruiting effort.

Yes 123 No 32

IV. CAVE LAWS

A. NATION CAVE LAW
Submitted by COG Chairman

Should the NSS encourage the adoption of a Nation Cave Protection Act?

Yes 109 No 49

B. STATE CAVE LAWS
Submitted by RASS

Should the NSS actively encourage the adoption of Cave Protection Acts on all states that contain ~~significant~~ caves?

Yes 156 No 1

V. CAVE GATES
Submitted by RASS

and other alternatives

A. Should the NSS provide information to cave owners, free of charge, on gate design and construction when the owner of a significant cave requests assistance in limiting access of his cave?

Yes 154 No 3

B. Should the NSS develop improved cave gate designs and plans beyond those listed in the Cave Gate Manual?

Yes 126 No 18

C. ~~Should the NSS encourage cave owners to gate sensitive caves that are threatened by spelunkers and cave vandals?~~ *Substituted*

Yes 146 No 13

The NSS should encourage cave owners to explore all alternatives of controlling access to caves that are threatened by any means.

VIII. NSS - LOCAL RELATIONS
Submitted by RASS

A. The NSS Board of Governors is urged to use extreme caution before overruling any NSS region on a matter only effecting caves and/or caves within that region.

Yes 113 No 24

B. The NSS Board of Governors and NSS officers are strongly urged to contact region and local I.O. leaders prior to deciding an issue that only effects that region or one internal organization whenever practical.

Yes 143 No 11

IX. NON NSS CAVE RELATED ORGANIZATIONS
Submitted by RASS

A. Should the NSS assist and cooperate with new or established cave science and/or cave conservation groups that are established independently of the NSS in carrying out mutually desirable projects?

Yes 150 No 6

B. Should the NSS remain neutral on the formation of new cave conservation or speleological organizations that are not NSS internal organizations, neither assisting nor opposing these organizations and not undertaking any cooperative projects?

Yes No

X. NSS BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Submitted by RASS

A. The NSS Board of Governors should be expanded from twelve (12) directors to fifteen (15) directors.

Yes 8 No 150

B. The NSS President should be elected directly by the NSS membership?

Yes 27 No 132

XI. MEMBERS MANUAL
Submitted by RASS

A. Should the telephone numbers of all the NSS members supplying telephone numbers be listed in the members manual?

Yes 118 No 33

B. Should the telephone numbers of internal organization leaders be listed in the members manual provided these numbers are available?

Yes 139 No 18

C. Should the telephone numbers of major offices of internal organizations be listed on the I.O. members list (part of the members manual) provided these numbers are available?

Yes 135 No 20

Attachment K

- D. Should the NSS encourage the collection of phone numbers of its members and I.O.'s
Yes 101 No 53
- E. Should the NSS members manual list the telephone numbers of Internal Organizations that have phone numbers?
Yes 137 No 7

COG Ballot 1982 - 4

XII. COG PROCEDURES
Submitted by COG Chairman

In any year that no issues are received by the Congress of Grottoes from any Internal Organization of the NSS within thirty (30) days prior to the Congress of Grottoes, the COG Chairman is authorized to cancel the COG meeting, provided that an adequate call for issues was printed in the NSS News and/or the NSS Administrative Newsletter.
Yes 43 No 116

XIII. PUBLIC CAVE ACQUISITION BY EMINENT DOMAIN
Submitted by RASS

Should the NSS Board of Governors appoint a committee to recommend a consistent NSS policy on the use of eminent domain by Federal or State government for acquiring caves for the "public good"?
Yes 39 No 105

XIV. REWARD FOR CAVE VANDAL CONVICTION
Submitted by RASS

Should the NSS offer a standing reward or a specific reward for information leading to the conviction of cave vandals and related acts?
Standing Reward Yes 115 No 39
Specific Reward Yes 119 No 36

XV. INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM
Submitted by RASS

Should the NSS Board of Governors study the feasibility of establishing procedure for initiative and referendum by the NSS members.
Yes ~~115~~ 94 No ~~39~~ 52

XVI. RECALL
Submitted by RASS

Should the NSS Board of Governors study the feasibility of establishing procedure for recall of officers or directors by the NSS membership.
Yes 48 No 101

Internal Organization

NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CONGRESS OF GROTTOS

July 1, 1982

FLOOR MOTIONS SUBMITTED

Attachment K

17. Moved by Holston Valley Grotto that common sense shall govern our proceedings. Tabled.
18. Moved by Mountain Empire Grotto that all officers of the NSS should be elected by the membership. Yes (5); No (130).
19. Moved by the Willamette Valley Grotto that:
Resolved, that American Caving Accidents (ACA) be made a regular publication of the NSS, published in the following way:
- A. The status of the Bulletin and ACA is switched, with the Bulletin going to a limited run (500-1000 issues) for sale to those who desire it with excess funds going to the publication of ACA on a regular basis. Yes (2); No (121).
- B. That \$1500--2000 are budgeted every year with ACA being published every four years with the accumulated funds.
Yes (0); No (118).
- C. That ACA be published every year as an issue of the NSS News.
Yes (8); No (115).
- D. That ACA be published every year as an issue of the Bulletin.
Yes (0); No (123).
- E. That ACA be funded by selling a large number of excess copies to the public at outdoor outlets. Yes (0); No (123).
- F. (Moved by Sandia) That ACA be published by the NSS Annually as a special insert in the NSS News beginning with the 1980-81 edition. Yes (120); No (3).
20. Moved by the Issues Chair: Should the COG have Legislative powers within the NSS? Yes (20); No (103).
21. Submitted by the San Francisco Bay Chapter: The Congress of Grottos requests that the Board of Governors develop a plan for the election of the directors of the Society such that each geographic area is assured at least one representative.
Yes (50); No (76).
22. Submitted by the D.C. Grotto: moved that all BOG meetings (except for the election of officers and approval of awards) be open to any NSS member. Yes (23); No (106).

23. Moved by Tse-Ann Grotto: The NSS should more aggressively promote the Participating, Benefactor, and Contributing membership classes. Yes (126); No (2).
24. Central Arizona Grotto moved: Shall the NSS establish a cave Conservation Commission of grotto and/or regional Conservation Chairmen which shall in turn elect an NSS Cave Conservation Chairman. Yes (35); No (53).
- 24A. Central Arizona Grotto moved that the NSS shall provide mailing labels, at cost, of grotto/regional officers for use by the grottos, regions, sections, committee chairmen, or BOG members. Died for lack of a second.
25. Birmingham Grotto moved that the NSS Membership committee should actively recruit members from other conservation organizations (ie., Sierra Club, Audubon, Nature Conservancy, etc.). Yes (33); No (88).
26. Elections
- A. For Chairman: John Evans, and Bob Ehr were nominated, and Bob Ehr was elected on the first ballot.
- B. For Vice-Chairman. John Evans, Russ Kennedy, Dave Belski, and Greg Valent were nominated. Greg Valent was elected on the second ballot.

Notes: 10 absentee ballots were included. 168 ballots were cast during the Congress, for a total of 178. Since 171 people were registered at the Congress, either three people did not turn in their ballots or some were lost during the counting process.

VII. INTERNAL ORGANIZATION
Submitted by RASS

The Board of Governors should establish a new class of internal organization or expand the definition of a present I.O. classification to allow certain specialized organizations to affiliate with the NSS as an internal organization such as a structured group of NSS members devoted to study a specific geographical area of caves or karst, or devoted to the cave conservation of a specific area, but which has:

- (a) No clear area of residence of its members and no general caving program such as a grotto would have.
- (b) No national base of interest such as a section would have.
- (c) No documentation of cave resources such as a survey would have.
- (d) No organizational members such as a region would have.
- (e) And that wanted to be an internal organization of the NSS and not a task force or institutional member.

Yes 25 No 109